

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Applicant: Richard P. Welle

Serial No.: 09/577,927

Filed: May 24, 2000

For: ISOTOPIC TAGGANT METHOD
AND COMPOSITION



Art Unit: 2873

Examiner: Hanig, Richard E

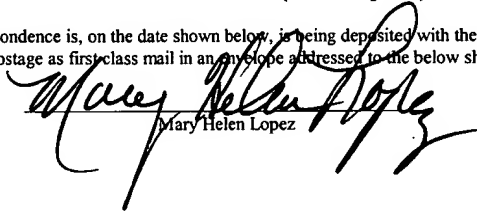
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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 20, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the below shown address.


Mary Helen Lopez

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant replies to the Office Action dated July 20, 2004, as follows:

I. RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR AMENDMENT NOT TO CONTAIN BRACKETS

Paragraph 1 of the Office Action stated that Applicant's March 22, 2002, response was non-compliant with 37 CFR 1.173(d) in that "the amendment should not contain brackets."

In that amendment each of claims 25-26, 29-34 and 36-39 were amended and in each of these claims the matter to be omitted by reissue was enclosed in brackets.

37 CFR 1.173 has been re-reviewed and it is believed that the use of brackets in applicant's response was required by the rule. The requirement to delete brackets is not